Nova Scotia
Minerals Update
Department of Natural Resources, Mineral Resources Branch

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NOVA SCOTIA
Natural Resources

Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada 2005

The 73rd annual Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) conference was a tremendous success owing to several factors, including the convergence of high commodity prices, investor interest, cashed-up juniors, and high levels of exploration activity in Canada and abroad. In his opening address to delegates at the conference, Peter Dimmell, president of the PDAC, mentioned that expenditures in 2004 by the junior sector were up 103% from 2003, to $1.58 billion. This spending accounted for close to 60% of the overall increase in exploration worldwide.

Attendance at this year's convention reached an all-time high of 12,000. This figure included delegates, exhibitors, guests and over 2,000 people who registered for the investors exchange. The attendance figure also included 35 official delegations. In all, 85 countries were represented at the convention.

As in past years, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources had a strong

Manager of Resource Evaluation Bob Ryan (L), Executive Director of Regional Services Brian Gilbert, and Manager of Geological Mapping and Geochemistry Mike MacDonald spend some time in front of the department's gold display at PDAC 2005.

presence at the convention. The Hon. Richard Hurlburt, Minister of Natural Resources, hosted two events at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel during the event. On Monday morning, March 7, Mr. Hurlburt held his annual Nova Scotia Mining Breakfast for representatives of the mining industry. This provided an opportunity to speak about the exploration activities underway and promote mineral-related opportunities in the province. Later the same day, Mr. Hurlburt addressed a delegation of investment analysts from Ontario and Quebec at the first of what may become an annual event, the Nova Scotia Investment Luncheon.

The mineral exploration community expressed interest in the various metallogenic environments in Nova Scotia, most notably the potential for: high-grade lode-gold and low-grade disseminated gold deposits in the Meguma Group rocks of southern Nova Scotia; iron oxide-copper-gold (IOCG) along the 300 km long Cobequid-Chedabucto Fault Zone; redbed copper-zinc-silver deposits in the upper Carboniferous rocks of northern Nova Scotia; polymetallic base- and precious-metal deposits associated with buried granite cupolas in the tin domain of southwestern Nova Scotia; and carbonate-hosted lead-zinc deposits in the lower Carboniferous Windsor Group rocks of northern mainland Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island. Hopefully this interest will translate to future exploration and evelopment of additional deposits in the province.

The PDAC conference continues to grow and it has become the premier event for showcasing global mineral exploration and development projects. This is a double-edged sword where Nova Scotia is concerned. The conference now provides profile to a truly global audience, but it also puts us in direct competition with the most prospective territories on the planet. DNR plans to continue to face this challenge. We will continue to attend the PDAC and other appropriate conventions to promote our province's mineral potential. We may be small, but we have mighty mineral potential.

Mike MacDonald

DNR Geologist John Calder Awarded Gesner Medal

Editor's note: At the Atlantic Geoscience Society's annual colloquium in January 2005, DNR geologist John Calder was awarded the society's Gesner Medal. What follows is an excerpt from the citation for the award.

For nearly thirty years, John Calder has played a highly influential role in the geoscience community of Atlantic Canada. John is a home-grown geologist, born and raised in the Cumberland County area of Nova Scotia, and an Earth Science graduate of Saint Mary's University, Halifax (1976). Following temporary positions with Esso and Kerr-Addison Mines, he joined the Nova Scotia Department of Mines in 1977 to work as a regional coal geologist. Early in his career, he completed a part-time Ph.D. at Dalhousie University, Halifax, graduating in 1991 with a thesis concerning the Late Carboniferous environment and paleoecology of the Springhill Coalfield.

Since then, John has risen to become an internationally respected coal geologist and paleo-botanist. In 1993, he won a much coveted Research Fellowship at the Smithsonian Institute. Subsequently, he has written more than twenty influential papers, and has received many international research awards. However, let us be clear - John is no ivory-tower academic. His drive for scientific excellence is matched only by his passion to communicate science. Whether devoting time to tourists on a beach, giving eloquent public lectures, contributing to popular books such as *The Last Billion Years*, or contributing to radio and TV programs such as CBC's *Land and Sea*, John's impact on the public appreciation of geology (and therefore the need to fund it) is incalculable. John has worked with many graduate and undergraduate students at NSDNR and through his Adjunct status at Dalhousie, and has also taught a popular class in paleobotany at St. Mary's University. He has worked with many amateur fossil collectors over the years, including widely known collectors Don Reid and Brian Hebert at Joggins, encouraging their enthusiastic study and assisting with identifying newly discovered fossils.

John's drive to 'put back' into local community is, perhaps, best expressed in his work to gain UNESCO World Heritage Status for the Joggins Fossil Cliffs. In this endeavour, John has contributed great versatility and energy to his work with the local community, whilst winning over provincial and federal politicians. This year saw the first fruits of John's decade-long labour, as Joggins passed its 'first test' and was placed on Canada's national list of candidate UNESCO sites. Many people have also enjoyed his high-quality photographs of geological sites and the more human dimensions of communities in various parts of the world. We therefore strongly urge you to award John the 2005 Gesner Medal. It would provide much deserved encouragement and recognition for a man who expends much of his energy in the encouragement and development of others.

Dr. Howard J. Falcon-Lang
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Dr. Martin R. Gibling
MGibling@dal.ca

John Calder

From the Mineral Inventory Files

If Dominique Boudreau Had Only Known What He Actually Found

Sometime around 1900, Dominique Boudreau of Plymouth, Yarmouth County, found galena-bearing quartz boulders in the woods near his home. Mr. Boudreau, like many novices, believed that mineralized quartz veins meant gold, so he prospected the site as a lead-gold property, even though nobody, then or since, has ever been able to confirm the presence of gold in the veins. Within short order, trenching and a 10 m deep shaft had unearthed six quartz veins intruding blue-black slate and greenish quartzite. The property became known as the Dominique Pb-Au Prospect although, in reality, Au should not have been included.

Too bad Mr. Boudreau didn't know what he had actually located. In 1976 the keen eye of successful Maritme prospector Merton Stewert (Millmore Syndicate) entered the picture. They discovered metasediment boulders richly mineralized with Sn, Zn, Cu, Pb and Ag in the numerous gravel pits between Plymouth and Wedgeport (Fig. 1). Further prospecting revealed abundant mineralized boulders of metasediment and granite over a large area. Millmore Syndicate recognized that it had discovered a style of tin mineralization not previously known in Nova Scotia, or North America for that matter. As a result, it staked the entire Wedgeport-Yarmouth region. Millmore optioned the ground to Shell Canada Resources Limited in 1977 and by 1978 three separate sites of tin mineralization were found within and adjacent to the Carboniferous Wedgeport Pluton (Fig. 1).

The northernmost of these sites included the old Dominique Prospect, and it was further discovered that veins there were just a small part of a larger mineralized area extending east to the salt marshes of the Tusket River estuary. Shell geologists retained the Dominique name, but corrected the elemental assemblage to what is actually present in abundance: Sn-Zn-Cu. Shell exploration at Dominique continued into 1979 but, by then, discovery of the tin deposit at East Kemptville 50 km to the northeast resulted essentially in total abandonment of the Dominique project. Dominique lay dormant until 1991 when the Department of Natural Resources carried out a four-hole diamond-drill program on the site. It was at this time that anomalous levels of Indium (In) (up to 90 ppm) were found within the mineralized zones, and a strong correlation between In and Zn was noted. This feature was again examined and verified in 1997 when Votix Corporation Limited acquired the property and drilled three additional diamond-drill holes.

In total, approximately 48 diamond-drill holes have been drilled at Dominique. The drilling has intersected three east-trending zones of metasediment-hosted Sn mineralization consisting of many-metre-thick zones containing hundreds of ppm Sn, and metre-scale zones containing on the order of 1-2 % Sn. The mineralized zones have associated pyrrhotite-chlorite-carbonate-garnet alteration, and occur in three main styles: (1) along easterly-trending shear zones; (2) as replacement of calcareous wacke adjacent to the shear zones; and (3) in stratabound and discordant quartz-carbonate veins. Along with cassiterite, the mineralized zones carry considerable pyrrhotite, sphalerite (up to 6.7% Zn), chalcopyrite (up to 0.3% Cu) and minor amounts of arsenopyrite and galena (up to 4.9% Pb). The strong structural control of the mineralization and its association with large amounts of sulphide, make standard geophysical techniques successful in defining mineralized zones. Given that the Dominique project, and other sites of tin mineralization in the Wedgeport area, were abandoned after only a couple of years of exploration, the full mineral potential of the area has yet to be examined. One can only wonder what would have happened if Dominique Boudreau had known what was really on his land way back when.

George O'Reilly

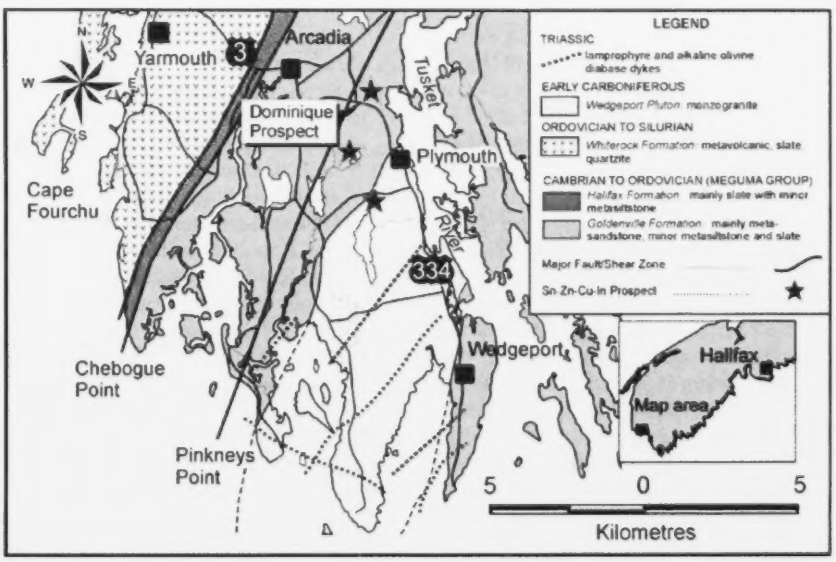


***Figure 1**. Geological map of the southwestern tip of Nova Scotia, showing locations of Sn-Zn-Cu-In prospects in the Yarmouth-Wedgeport area.*

The Chamber of Mineral Resources of Nova Scotia

The annual general meeting of the Chamber was convened in Truro on April 7, 2005, at the Glengarry Motor Inn. More than 50 members of the Chamber attended the event.

An early morning breakfast with the Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Richard Hurlburt, began the meeting. The Minister brought greetings from the Government of Nova Scotia and reviewed some of the significant events affecting the mineral industry during the past year.

The Chamber's business meeting was held in the morning, and technical sessions in the afternoon. At the business meeting members approved the recommendations of the nominating committee for the Executive and Directors of the Chamber. The following Executive members were acclaimed: **President** – Byron MacMillan (Fundy Gypsum Company); **First Vice President** – Greg Isenor (G.P. Isenor Company Limited); **Second Vice President** – vacant; **Treasurer** – Blair McMullin (McMullin and Associates); **Secretary** – Terry Daniels (T-Bear Contracting Ltd.).
The following Directors were also appointed:
John Amirault (Consulting Engineer), Kim Conrad (Conrad Brothers Ltd.), Alan Davidson (Black Bull Resources Inc.), John O'Sullivan (Rainbow Resources Limited), Gordon Dickie (Shaw Resources), Paul Buxton (Bilcon of Nova Scotia), Scott Grant (Prospector), Steve MacCormack (Little Narrows Gypsum), John Wightman (The Goldfields Group), Leo MacArthur (LaFarge North America), Ian Palmeter (Atlantic Tractor and Equipment Ltd.) and Ian Paton (ITT Flygt).

Peter Akerley, President and CEO of Erdene Resources, was the guest speaker at the luncheon. He kept the Chamber members fascinated by his colourful descriptions of working in Mongolia, with slides and maps of the various exploration projects.

In the afternoon Howard Donohoe chaired the technical session and introduced the five speakers. Mike MacDonald from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources spoke about current exploration and development activity in the province. In the first of two talks about safety, Mary Jean MacDonald of the Workers Compensation Board of Nova Scotia discussed the way that the Board is promoting a safe work environment and a safety culture. Her position as Director of Prevention Services is new at the Board. Gordon Dickie, General Manager of Shaw Resources, spoke about establishing a safety culture at Shaw Resources. The resulting change in culture, embraced from senior management down to the newest employee, has resulted in no loss time accidents. Fundamental to the change in culture is the slogan "Safe Production" versus the former "Safety First." Chris Spencer of the Nova Scotia Department of Energy spoke about the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Agreement. He indicated the importance to the province of having 100% of the revenue from offshore developments. The last speaker, Paul Rebello of Caterpillar of Canada Corporation, described how diesel engines are manufactured to conformity with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements. The newest Cat engines are meeting EPA Tier 3 requirements using Cat's ACERT technology.

This general meeting marked 25 years of service by the Chamber for the mineral industry in Nova Scotia. It was an up-beat meeting with interesting talks and a strong sense of purpose. To join the Chamber please call 902-798-0187.

Howard Donohoe and Terry Daniels

The Prospector's Stake

Time to think about some serious prospecting as summer approaches. Maps are an important part of any prospector's kit. The national topographic series 1:50 000 maps are excellent starting maps for an area. At the local office of Service Nova Scotia you may purchase more detailed maps at a scale of 1:10 000. Map sheets from the *Nova Scotia Atlas* can be created at a scale of 1:150 000. Service Nova Scotia also sells air photos of the province. You may view these photos from current photography back into the 1960s at the DNR Library on the 3rd Floor, 1701 Hollis Street, Halifax, but DNR does not sell air photos or topographic maps.

Before you venture into the woods, you need to bring a compass, knife and matches, as well as a map. There are several excellent web sites that give a step by step refresher on compass use. Type "Using a Compass" into a search engine and you will find many good sites. A GPS (global positioning system) unit is inexpensive and valuable for recording locations and elevations. Be sure that you have checked the map datum (NAD27 or NAD83), and that you are using the same datum in the GPS unit. Before you go into the woods, let someone know where you will be and when you will return.

Invest in first aid training and a good first aid kit as part of the essential equipment for field work. You should also have personal protective equipment such as eye glasses or goggles, ear plugs, gloves, metal toed boots and hard hat. A good refresher in field safety is the Mineral Resources Branch *Safe Work Methods Handbook*.

Map staking has been part of Nova Scotia's heritage for more than three generations of prospectors. For the past thirty years or more the Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles has been using NAD27, black and white, clear sheets at a scale of 1 inch = ¼ mile. Now the Registry has new, laminated 1:25 000 NAD83 colour maps for staking. They're a pleasure to use. The Registry staff can help you with any questions you may have about staking or completing work on an exploration license.

Have a safe and productive field season. Break every rock and leave no stone unturned!

Howard Donohoe

Halifax 2005: Building Bridges - Across Science, Through Time, Around the World

For more than five years, several DNR geologists have been helping to plan and organize a major international geoscience conference, which was held on the Studley Campus of Dalhousie University from May 15 through 18. Halifax 2005 was a joint meeting of the Geological Association of Canada, Mineralogical Association of Canada, Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and the Canadian Society of Soil Science, and attracted almost 1,100 delegates from around the world.

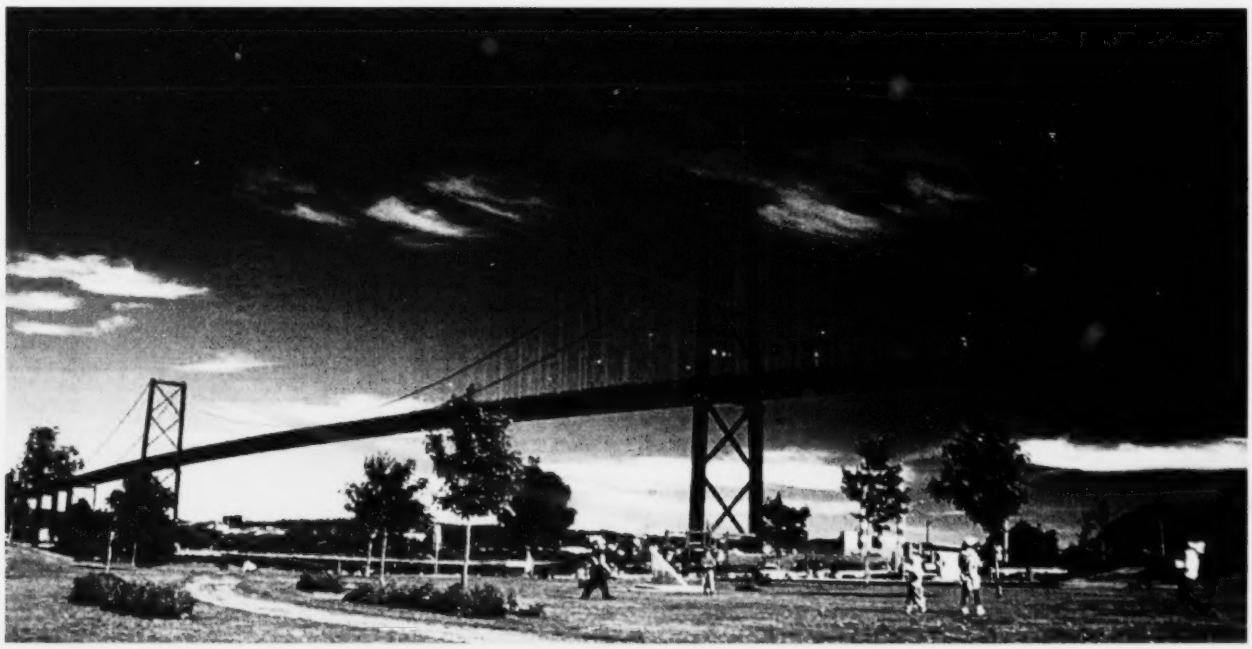
Conference organizers chose the theme "Building Bridges" for Halifax 2005. The bridge theme serves a dual purpose. It is symbolic of the host city, with its two soaring harbour bridges linking Halifax and Dartmouth (see photo below), and also represents a conscious attempt to provide a multi-disciplinary program to bridge the gaps between different parts of earth- or "geo"-science, and between geoscience and society. The conference's success in pursuing this theme was perhaps best illustrated by the fact that four societies agreed to come together to host the meeting.

Halifax 2005 featured a terrific scientific program that ranged widely across the spectrum of geoscience and provided ample scientific reward to all delegates, no matter what their particular interest. In addition to the scientific sessions, a rich outreach program aimed at bringing geoscience to the public featured public lectures, an EdGEO workshop for school teachers, two special sessions on outreach themes, and a forum at which geoscientists and the public discussed the global responsibility of geoscientists in the context of recent natural disasters like the December 26, 2004, south Asian tsunami. Five short courses were offered for professional development, and seven pre-conference and nine post-conference field trips provided opportunities for delegates to see Maritime geology.

The conference also had a wonderful special events program, including 50th anniversary celebrations for the Mineralogical Association of Canada. The cornerstone of this celebration was a birthday party at the trade show and poster venue on the Dalhousie campus. The Mineralogical Association also arranged for a display of a portion of the famous William Pinch mineral collection from the Canadian Museum of Nature, which attracted many members of the public including a large number of school children.

Delegates were effusive in their comments about the conference and Maritime hospitality. Conference organizers were easily able to declare the event a success, despite the less-than-spring-like weather.

Scott Swinden, Mike MacDonald and Mike Cherry



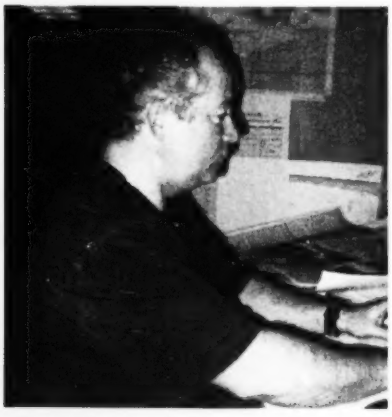
A view of the MacKay Bridge from Seaview Park. Photo courtesy of the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

Appointment in the Geological Services Division

The Geological Services Division is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Dr. Chris White to the position of Geologist 3 (Geological Mapping) in the Geological Mapping and Geochemistry Section. This vacancy resulted from the resignation of Linda Ham, who has taken a position with the federal government's Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in Nunavut.

Chris is well-known to clients of the Geological Services Division. He obtained his formal training at Acadia and Dalhousie universities, completing his Ph.D. at the latter in 1996. The title of Chris' doctoral dissertation was "Geology, Geochronology and Tectonic Evolution of the Brookville Terrane, Southern New Brunswick". Chris joined the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources in the fall of 1997. Since then, he has been involved in bedrock geology projects in Cape Breton Island, and eastern and southwestern mainland Nova Scotia. He maintains a keen interest in all aspects of Appalachian bedrock geology, and brings that enthusiasm and a keen intellect to all of his work.

Mike Cherry



Chris White

January-March Open Assessment Reports

Report Number	NTS	Licensee
AR ME 2002-086	11E/03B, C	Geostorage Associates
AR ME 2003-002	21A/02C	Kaulback, S
AR ME 2003-003	11F/14B	MacKinnon, R P
AR ME 2003-004	21H/01D	Hudgins, A D
AR ME 2003-005	11D/15D	D R Duncan and Associates Limited
	11D/16C	Nycon Resources Incorporated
AR ME 2003-006	11D/16C	D R Duncan and Associates Limited
		Newfoundland Goldbar Resources Limited
AR ME 2003-007	11D/16C	Oicle, G
AR ME 2003-008	11D/16C	Oicle, G
AR ME 2003-009	11E/01A	Meguma Resource Enterprises Incorporated
AR ME 2003-010	11F/16D	Golden Ace Mineral Explorations Limited
AR ME 2003-011	11D/13B	Findley, C
AR ME 2003-012	11E/02A	Rainbow Resources Limited
	11E/02B	Votix Corporation Limited
		Tempus Corporation
AR ME 2003-013	11F/14D	Mineraltec
		Glencoe Resources Incorporated
AR ME 2003-014	11D/14C	Rainbow Resources Limited
		DeBay, A
AR ME 2003-015	11D/12D	Thorpe, C K
		Conrad Brothers Limited
AR ME 2003-016	11D/14C	MacHardy, J
AR ME 2003-017	11E/01A, D	Elk Explorations Limited
AR ME 2003-018	11D/16C	H and E Mullen Investments Limited
AR ME 2003-019	21A/06A	Hooper, A D
AR ME 2003-020	11E/05A	O'Sullivan, J R
		Roche, M W
AR ME 2003-021	11F/05A	Schenkels, H F
AR ME 2003-022	11E/08B	King, M S
AR ME 2003-023	21A/14B	Ransom, L R
AR ME 2003-024	21A/09B	Metcalf, T
AR ME 2003-025	11F/14A	Barrett, A M
AR ME 2003-026	11F/14A	Barrett, A M
AR ME 2003-027	11D/11D	Geosearch
AR ME 2003-028	11F/14C	Mercator Geological Services Limited
	11F/14D	Glencoe Resources Incorporated
AR ME 2003-030	21H/01A	O'Sullivan, J R
		Hansone Limited
AR ME 2003-040	11F/16D	Burnt Point Resources Incorporated
AR ME 2003-066	11F/11C	Chavin Resources Limited
		MacLeod Resources Limited
AR ME 2003-096	11D/16C	D R Duncan and Associates Limited
		Nycon Resources Incorporated
AR ME 2004-013	11D/15D	Mercator Geological Services Limited
	11E/02A	Votix Corporation Limited

Susan Saunders and Norman Lyttle

Mining Society of Nova Scotia: Annual General Meeting 2005

Theme: *"Mining Nova Scotia - The Face of Progress!"*
Location: Dundee Resort and Golf Club, Dundee, NS
Dates: Thursday and Friday, June 2, 3, 2005

Thursday Afternoon, June 2

1:30-5:00pm	Registration, Main Lobby, Dundee Resort
1:30-2:00pm	Annual General Meeting – business meeting
2:00-2:30pm	**Stea, Ralph and Mills, Ron** – Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources – "Can Glacial Till be Mined for Gold in Nova Scotia?"
2:30-3:00pm	**Horne, Rick** – Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources –"Meguma Gold Deposits – Controls on Distribution: Are There More to be Found?"
3:00-3:30pm	**Felderhof, Will** – Acadian Gold Corporation in Nova Scotia – "An Update on Company Plans"
3:30-4:00pm	Coffee Break
4:00-4:30pm	**Parsons, Mike** - Geological Survey of Canada (Atlantic) – "Environmental Legacy of Historical Gold Mining Activities in Nova Scotia"

Thursday Evening

6:30-7:30pm	President's Reception, Cash Bar
7:30-9:30pm	Awards Dinner, Guest Speaker (TBA)
9:30-12:00pm	Entertainment – Dance and Cash Bar

Friday Morning, June 3

9:00-Noon	Registration, Main Lobby, Dundee Resort
8:30-8:35am	Introduction
8:35-9:00am	**Kontak, Dan** – Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources – "Expanding Mineral Potential of SW Nova 25 Years After the Big Bang"
9:00-9:30am	**Davidson, Alan** – Black Bull Resources Inc. — "White Rock Project: Quartz Processing Plant"
9:30-10:00am	**Price, Joe** – Shaw Bricks –"140 Years of Brick Making"
10:00-10:30am	Coffee Break
10:30-11:00am	**Doucet, Peter** – Atlantic Explosives Ltd. – "Making it Work - Creating Possibilities for the Impossible"
11:00-11:30am	**Rebello, Paul** – Caterpillar of Canada – "CAT's *ACCERT* Technology"
11:30-12:00am	**Fisher, Brian and Poole, Jeff** – Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources – "Accessing Geoscience Data at DNR"

Friday Afternoon

12:00-1:30pm	Mining Society Luncheon
1:30-5:00pm	Registration, Main Lobby, Dundee Resort
1:30-1:35pm	Introduction
1:35-2:00pm	**Dutton, Rob** – Anadarko Canada Corporation – "Bear Head LNG Plant"
2:00-2:30pm	**Mattie, Mike** – Keltic Petrochemicals Inc. – "An Update on Projects"
2:30-3:00pm	**Carter, Dave** – Hy-Grade Geoscience – "Underground Storage"
3:00-3:30pm	Coffee Break
3:30-4:00pm	**MacKenzie, Graeme,** Emera Inc., **Munroe, Charles,** Savage Services Corp., **MacDonald, Dan,** CBCL Limited – "The Point Tupper Marine Coal Terminal"
4:00-4:30pm	**Donohoe, Howard** – Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources – "The Face of Progress – Past to Future"

Friday Evening

6:30-7:30pm	Reception
7:30-9:30pm	Lobster Supper
9:30-11:00pm	Entertainment

Howard Donohoe

We Need to Hear from You!

The efficient use of government resources is an issue that is rightfully subject to continual debate. Currently, each issue of the *Nova Scotia Minerals Update* is mailed free of charge to approximately 1500 individuals, businesses and other organizations. In light of the increasing access to electronic communication, we need to know if it is important to you to receive a paper copy of the newsletter. For those readers who do not have internet access this will require the greatest effort: you will have to take the time to write us a letter and mail it, or you will have to incur the expense of making a phone call. Despite these obstacles, your input may be the most important to us because your stake in receiving the newsletter by mail is highest. On the other hand, many people with easy access to electronic communication still prefer to read something on paper. Others are complete converts to the electronic age who feel that all paper is wasted paper.

As a branch of the provincial government, we have the infrastructure to make all of our documents available digitally on the Mineral Resources Branch web site. In fact, we already do this: the branch web site contains the largest collection of digital information available on-line from the Government of Nova Scotia. Our web site provides an average of 4000 downloads per month, all free of charge. One model of service delivery is that we should simply send out e-mail notifications of new information available on the web site.

We need to hear from you in order to gain some appreciation of where our readers stand. The issue of what constitutes effective government communication is broad, and open to many points of view. Written comments are encouraged because they leave a permanent record (e-mail or regular mail) that can be read verbatim by anyone. Phone calls will also be welcomed, but they can only be recorded as notes from the conversation.

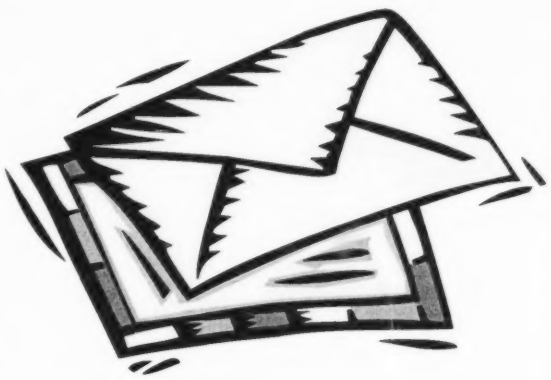
Your comments will be appreciated with respect to any aspect of the *Nova Scotia Minerals Update* that you would like to discuss. Here are some of the questions that we are trying to examine.

- Do you want to receive the newsletter by regular mail?
- Would you prefer to receive the newsletter by e-mail notification?
- Do you prefer to read from paper or from a monitor?
- Would you like to see the newsletter in colour?
- How could we improve the content of the newsletter?
- Would you like to see more detailed information in longer articles?
- Would you be willing to pay a fee (to cover postage) for your subscription?

Please note that no decision has been made to change anything about the newsletter or its current method of delivery.

Please send your comments to me at the postal address, phone number, or e-mail address on the front page. I look forward to hearing from you in the next few weeks. A summary of the comments received will be provided in the Summer issue of the *Nova Scotia Minerals Update*.

Doug MacDonald



Special Note

Donkin Coal Resource Block
As reported in the last issue of this newsletter (vol. 22, no. 1), the deadline for submission of proposals for the exploration and development of the Donkin coal resource block was March 11, 2005. Three proposals were received. The proposals are being evaluated by a review panel, in accordance with the process outlined in the Call for Proposals document. Once chosen, a successful proponent will be expected to apply for a "Special License" or "Special Lease". The proponent will be required to satisfy all applicable acts and regulations during the planning, development and operation of this project.

Dates to Remember

June 2 and 3, 2005
The 118th Annual General Meeting of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia, This year's Theme: "Mining Nova Scotia - The Face of Progress!" Dundee Resort and Golf Club, Dundee, Cape Breton.

August 18-21, 2005
Nova Scotia's Gem and Mineral Show 2005, Lion's Recreation Center, Western Ave., Parrsboro, N.S. Celebrating 40 years...Nova Scotia's Gem and Mineral Show is the only one of its kind in the Maritimes. Formerly the Rockhound Round-up, it was founded in 1966.

November 7-9, 2005
Exploration and Mining New Brunswick 2005, Delta Hotel, Fredericton, New Brunswick. For more information e-mail: carol.mcneil-dobbelsteyn@gnb.ca

November 9 and 10, 2005
Mining Matters 2005, Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, Hollis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia. For more information contact Mike MacDonald at 902-424-2523.